

SCOTTISH CLANS & NAMING PATTERNS

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Clans

Clan comes from the Gaelic word, “clanna”

What were the fines?

- Derbhfine
- Gilfine

Clan Organization

Structure

Clan Chief – Head of the clan.

Tanist/Tainistear – The heir to the chief, typically the direct male heir.

Chieftains – Leaders of the various septs, branches, houses of the clan.

The Captain – Acts as war chief to the clan.

‘Daoin-Uaisle’ – The gentlemen, landed or titled individuals within the clan.

The general body of the clan

Native Men and Broken Men

- Native Men
- Broken Men

Fosterage and Manrent

- Fosterage
- Manrent

Origins of Scotland’s Clans

The Scoti or Scots

Dalriata

The Vikings

Gaelic Influence on Scotland

- Culture
- Government
- Clan system vs. feudalism

Sasanach Perceptions of the Highlanders

The highlanders were a mystery to the rest of Britain’s population.

Highland Customs and Cultures

- The Fiery Cross
- The Harp and Bagpipes
- The Claymore

The Battle of Culloden and Death of the Highland Clans

- Culloden Moor, outside of Inverness, on 16 April 1746
- The Act of Proscription of 1746

Rebirth of Clans and Tartans

Clan Organizations and Records

Clan Buchanan	Online – Archive.org
Clan Cameron	Achnacarry, Scotland
Clan Campbell	Online – Ancestry.com & Online – clan genealogies
Clan Chattan	Online – Clan-Chattan
Clan Chisholm	Highland Archive
Clan Ferguson	Online – Archive.org
Clan Fraser	National Archives of Scotland now National Records of Scotland Highland Archive
Clan Gregor	National Records of Scotland
Clan Gordon	National Records of Scotland
Clan Hamilton	National Library of Scotland
Clan MacBean	Highland Archive
Clan MacGregor	National Records of Scotland
Clan MacLachlan	National Library of Scotland
Clan MacLean	National Library of Scotland & National Records of Scotland
Clan MacRae	Online – Archive.org
Clan Matheson	Online & modern genealogies
Clan Stuart of Bute	MountStuart, Isle of Bute
Clan Sutherland	National Records of Scotland

The Wearin' O' The Tartan

- Tartan comes from the French word, "tartaine."
- Tartan-like dress worn by the Celts

The Tartan

- féileadh bhreacain (plaid of tartan)
- féileadh beag (little plaid)

Tartans Today

There are now thousands of tartan setts. Folklore suggests that every color and line in every pattern is endowed with deep historical significance. That is not the case.

Types of Tartans

Clan Tartans – patterns for general use by clanspeople.

Dress Tartans – were originally worn by the ladies of the clan who preferred to wear lighter colored patterns.

Mourning Tartans – worn for funerals and mourning.

Hunting Tartans – worn for outdoor activities like hunting and sports and have muted colors and browns, etc.

Chiefs' Tartans – the personal tartans of the clan chief and his immediate family.

District Tartans – probably the oldest of the tartans and are from what the other tartans may have developed.

Scottish Naming Patterns

Ancestral Scottish Naming Pattern

The 1st son was named for his father's father

The 2nd son was named for his mother's father

The 3rd son was named for his father's father's father

The 4th son was named for his mother's mother's father

The 5th son was named for his father's mother's father

The 6th son was named for his mother's father's father

The 7th through 10th sons were named for their father's
4 great-grandfathers

The 11th through 14th sons were named for their mother's
4 great-grandfathers

The 1st daughter was named for her mother's mother

The 2nd daughter was named for her father's mother

The 3rd daughter was named for her mother's father's mother

The 4th daughter was named for her father's father's mother

The 5th daughter was named for her mother's mother's mother

The 6th daughter was named for her father's mother's mother

The 7th through 10th daughters were named for their mother's
4 great-grandmothers

The 11th through 14th daughters were named for their father's 4 great-grandmothers

Parental Scottish Naming Pattern

The 1st son was named for his father's father

The 2nd son was named for his mother's father

The 3rd son was named for his father

The 4th son was named for his father's eldest brother

The 5th son was named for his father's next eldest brother

The 1st daughter was named for her mother's mother

The 2nd daughter was named for her father's mother

The 3rd daughter was named for her mother

The 4th daughter was named for her mother's eldest sister

The 5th daughter was named for her mother's next eldest sister

Forename Variants

Examples of changing or abbreviated names:

Alexander:

Alec, Alex, Eck, Sandy, Sander, Xander

Elizabeth:

Elisabeth, Eliza, Betty, Betsy, Beth, Bessie, Elspeth, Elsie, Lizzie

Euphemia:

Euphan, Eupham, Effy
George:
Dod
James:
Jamie, Jimmy, Jim
Katherine:
Kate, Katie, Kath, Kathy

Anglicizing Gaelic Names and Interchangeable Names

Scottish vs. English Names:
Andrea = Andrew
Caitrìona = Katherine
Domhnall = Donald
Frang = Francis
Grizel = Griselda
Hamish = James
Ian = John
Seòras = George
Jane or Jean or Janet or Jessie
Agnes or Nancy
Donald or Daniel

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